

Message Text

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5029

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E.O. 1162: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB

SUBJECT: SCHOLZE PRESSES BERLIN AND FRG TO START NEGOTIATIONS

WITH GDR

1. JULY 30 BERLINER STIMME, THE BERLIN SPD ORGAN, CARRIES ARTICLE AUTHORED BY BERLIN SPD DEPUTY CHAIRMAN WALDEMAR SCHULZE IN WHICH HE DECRIMES THE LACK OF MOVEMENT IN ISSUE OF FRG AND SENAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR. SCHULZE, A MEMBER OF LOCAL SPD'S LEFT WING, REMARKS THAT THE INCLUSION OF BERLIN IN THE "NEGOTIATIONS CONCEPT" OF THE FRG, WHILE IT HAS CERTAINLY BROUGHT ADVANTAGES TO THE CITY, HAS ALSO NARROWED THE GOVERNING MAYOR'S NEGOTIATING ROOM. WHAT ARE ANNEX III (POINTS 1 AND 3) OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF 1971, SCHULZE CONTENDS, BUT INVITATIONS TO THE SENAT TO NEGOTIATE? UNREALIZED "BEAUTIFUL IDEAS" FOR BERLIN, IN SCHULZE'S LIST INCLUDE MAKING BERLIN AN EAST-WEST TRADE CENTER WITH FOREIGN TRADE OFFICES OF THE EC AND COMECON; BUILDING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL TIES, EXPECIALLY WITH EAST AND SOUTHERN EUROPE; "LUFTKREUZ BERLIN"; IMPROVEMENTS IN VISITOR TRAFFIC; AND ENCLAVE EXCHANGES IN THE DUCKBILL, GOERLITZER BAHNHOF AND TIERGARTEN. SCHULZE ENDS HIS ARTICLE WITH AN APPEAL TO GOVERNING MAYOR TO TAKE "NEW, PERHAPS UNCOMFORTABLE

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PATHS, AND RESUME BROKEN-OFF DIALOGUES." STOBBE, SCHULZE ARGUES, MAY AT TIMES HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE.

2. SENAT CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL (SCHULTZE) INFORMED SENAT LIAISON OFFICERS AUGUST 2 THAT GOVERNING MAYOR CONSIDERS SCHULZE'S ARTICLE AS AN APPEAL TO SENAT TO START TALKS WITH GDR EVEN WITHOUT FRG'S HAVING

INITIATED ITS OWN ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR. STOBBE, ACCORDING TO SENAT, SIMPLY HAS NO INTENTION OF GOING AHEAD WITH GDR ON HIS OWN EVEN THOUGH HE TOO IS IMPATIENT WITH FRG'S CONTINUING SLOWNESS IN GETTING STARTED. HIS SLIGHTLY TESTY REPLY TO SCHULZE'S BERLINER STIMME ARTICLE, AS QUOTED IN JULY 31 TAGESSPIEGEL, WAS THAT ONE DID NOT NEED TO "MOTIVATE" HIM IN INNER-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE.

3. IN AUGUST 3 TAGESSPIEGEL, EDITORIALIST JOACHIM BOELKE REFUTES IDEA THAT SENAT CAN OR SHOULD PROCEED ON ITS OWN WITH NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR, NOTING THAT BERLIN SENAT IS NO SOVEREIGN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH CAN NEGOTIATE WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT OF THE ALLIES, WHO THEMSELVES SEEK TO DEAL IN CLOSE HARMONY WITH FRG ON GERMAN QUESTIONS. ASIDE FROM POLITICAL DESIRABILITY OF BERLIN'S BEING REPRESENTED BY BONN IN RELATION TO THE GDR, BOELKE CONTINUES, FRG, AND NOT BERLIN, HAS THE MATERIAL BENEFITS TO OFFER TO GDR. EDITORIAL INTERPRETS SCHULZE'S ARTICLE AS A LEFT-WING SPD CHALLENGE TO BERLIN SPD CHAIMAN LOEFFLER AND GOVERNING MAYOR. WHETHER STOBBE AND LOEFFLER ARE WILLING TO DEFEND "CORNERSTONE OF BERLIN POLITICS", NAMELY TIES WITH FRG AND ALLIES IN COMMON RESPONSIBILITY FOR CITY, BOELKE SPECULATES,

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IS YET TO BE SEEN. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

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